

8 June 2017  
Revised 7 August 2017

Glenn May  
Project Manager  
NYSDEC - Region 9  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
270 Michigan Ave.  
Buffalo, New York 14203

**RE: Pond 1A Corrective Measures Completion Report  
Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls Expansion/Sabre Park BCP  
Brownfield Cleanup Program Site #: C932162  
1705 Factory Outlet Boulevard  
Town of Niagara, New York  
Langan Project No.: 140091414**

Dear Mr. May:

Langan Engineering, Environmental, Surveying, and Landscape Architecture, D.P.C. (Langan) has prepared this report to document the completion of corrective measures implemented at stormwater detention Pond 1A at the Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls (FONF) Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) Site located at 1705 Factory Outlet Boulevard, Town of Niagara, New York (the "Site"). A Pond 1A Corrective Measures Plan (CMP) was prepared by Langan and submitted to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) on 13 January 2016. Following comments provided by NYSDEC, the CMP was revised on 26 May 2016 (included as Attachment A) and approved by NYSDEC on 20 June 2016 (approval letter included as Attachment B). Corrective measure activities were completed in accordance with the CMP and the NYSDEC-approved Site Management Plan (SMP), dated 15 November 2014. A Site Location Map is provided as Figure 1.

## BACKGROUND

Macerich entered into a Brownfield Cleanup Agreement (BCA) with the NYSDEC as a "Volunteer" to investigate and, where necessary, remediate a 47.8-acre property located in the Town of Niagara, New York. The Fashion Outlet of Niagara Falls (FONF) Expansion/Sabre Park property (hereinafter referred to as the "Site") has been remediated to Track 4 Commercial Use BCP Cleanup criteria, and is redeveloped with a new 225,000 square-foot expansion of the existing FONF mall, including 175,000 square feet of new enclosed gross leasable area to the existing FONF mall, an additional 1,720,000 square feet of asphalt paved parking areas, 273,750 square feet of landscaped areas, and 225,000 square feet of stormwater detention ponds. Also, a new Secure Storage facility was constructed in the southwest corner of the Site to replace the former Secure Storage facility.

In October 2014, the project had completed construction and fulfilled its requirements under the BCP. As part of the environmental remediation for the project, engineering controls were implemented to prevent human exposure to subsurface impacts left in-place. Those controls included a site-wide cap consisting of asphalt paved parking, concrete structures and sidewalks, clay-lined stormwater ponds, and clean cover in landscaped areas. Although not part of the remedial action, a geosynthetic liner was placed within the pond areas as a measure to facilitate ease of construction. Locations and details of the engineering controls are provided in Figure 2 and a revised Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for the project is provided as Attachment C. A certificate of completion was issued by the NYSDEC on 19 December 2014.

## **BREACH DISCOVERY AND INTERIM CORRECTIVE MEASURES**

In April 2015, a breach of the engineered cap at stormwater detention Pond 1A was observed. This was evidenced by a floating liner within the forebay of Pond 1A, discolored pond water (yellow-green), and hexavalent chromium identified in the pond water via analytical testing at a concentration of 1.8 mg/l. The NYSDEC was notified of the breach on 16 April 2016.

Upon discovery of the breach, the following preventative measures were implemented to protect human health and the environment prior to the implementation of a remedy:

- Construction of a temporary chain link fence around the perimeter of Pond 1A to prevent access to the pond by the public.
- Temporary sealing of all influent and effluent piping at Pond 1A with inflatable pipe plugs, brick, and mortar.
- Stormwater flow collected from pavement areas adjacent to Pond 1A was redirected to Pond 1B, effectively shutting off any stormwater discharges into Pond 1A.

## **REMEDY FAILURE INVESTIGATION**

In June 2016, at the request of the Town of Niagara, Langan collected six water samples from the three stormwater detention ponds at the Site; one sample was collected from Pond 1A, two samples were collected from Pond 1B, and three samples were collected from Pond 2. Each of the samples were collected in laboratory-supplied containers and were submitted to York Analytical Laboratories, Inc. in Stratford, Connecticut, and analyzed for hexavalent chromium via EPA Method 7196A. Laboratory analytical results did not detect hexavalent chromium above the laboratory reporting limit of 10 micrograms per liter (µg/L) in any of the stormwater samples collected. The laboratory data deliverable for these samples is provided in digital form as Attachment D.

On 23 July 2016, Macerich, Langan and the remedial project team conducted an investigation of the engineered cap at stormwater detention Pond 1A. The investigation included the following:

- Dewatering and discharging of the overlying water within Pond 1A;
- Removal of 1-foot thick topsoil cover overlying the 40-mil high-density polyethylene (HDPE) liner at Pond 1A;
- Cutting and removal of the HDPE liner and dewatering of the underlying perched water trapped below the HDPE liner;
- Inspection of the integrity of the clay liner within Pond 1A; and,
- The investigation and inspection of the Pond 1A forebay pipe outfall penetration, including:
  - Removal of the 40-mil HDPE liner and welded pipe collar connecting to the outfall pipe;
  - Inspection of the underlying clay liner;
  - Inspection of the clay key which plugs the outfall pipe trench; and,
  - The excavation of the outfall pipe trench to identify any trapped perched water within the trench upstream.

Following the investigation of the pond, the cause of the breach was determined to likely be the result of a number of factors including, but not limited to: rapid snow melt, rising water table, trapped water in fill during construction, a breach of a stormwater pipe collar, and the natural clay thinning out in the vicinity of Pond 1A.

## **COMPLETED CORRECTIVE MEASURES**

A Pond 1A Corrective Measures Plan (CMP) was prepared by Langan and submitted to NYSDEC 13 January 2016. Following comments provided by NYSDEC, the CMP was revised on 26 May 2016 (included as Attachment A) and approved by NYSDEC on 20 June 2016 (included as Attachment B). All corrective measures were completed in accordance with the Site's Excavation Work Plan (Appendix A of the SMP and provided as Attachment E of this report) and the revised Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (provided as Attachment C). From 23 July to 19 August 2016, the following corrective measures were completed at the Site (a corrective measures summary map is provided as Figure 3):

- Stored water within Pond 1A was sampled for approval prior to discharge to the Niagara Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant under a Niagara Falls Water Board (NFWB) Wastewater Facilities Discharge Permit for an Industrial Commercial User (ICU) (provided as Attachment F). Based on the acceptance limits provided in the NFWB

discharge permit and the analytical results of water samples collected from Pond 1A, treatment was not required for the water prior to discharge. Approximately 173,900 gallons of water from Pond 1A was discharged to the Niagara Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant during the implementation of the corrective measures.

- Approximately 200 cubic yards of flowable fill from the Lafarge Niagara Aggregate Plant of Niagara Falls, NY (Lafarge) was pumped into the now-abandoned stormwater outfall pipes at Pond 1A;
- A total of 4,729 tons of certified clean virgin quarry stone was imported from Lafarge to backfill Pond 1A to 1-foot of final grade.
- Approximately 1,100 cubic yards of topsoil was imported to the Site for use as the 1-foot thick clean cover over the former location of Pond 1A. The topsoil was imported from A-1 Land Care, Inc. located at 1527 Ridge Road in Lewiston, New York. Prior to import and placement at the Site, Langan sampled the topsoil in accordance with the SMP, and the analytical results were included in a 10 August 2016 Importation of Topsoil request that was submitted to NYSDEC. As detailed in these requests, no constituents were detected in any samples collected at concentrations exceeding the Allowable Constituent Levels for Imported Fill or Soil for Commercial Uses (Appendix 5 of DER-10). NYSDEC approval for the reuse this topsoil as part of the engineered cap/cover system is included in Attachment G.
- Langan implemented a community air monitoring plan (CAMP) to monitor particulates and VOCs during soil disturbance activities.

Implementation of storm-water pollution prevention measures were completed during the corrective measures in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Excavation and off-site disposal of site soils was not necessary during completion of the CMP. Please note that the Site's stormwater management system required modification in order to compensate for the storage volume lost with the elimination of Pond 1A. As such, Macerich will be beginning construction activities associated with the stormwater reconstruction work on 8 August 2017. The proposed work generally includes the following:

- A pipe will be installed to drain the surface area at the former location of Pond 1a.
- A portion of the stormwater generated by the Secure Storage Facility will be redirected through a new storm sewer into Pond 2, reducing the inflow to Pond 1b.
- The new storm sewer that will reroute runoff from the Secure Storage Facility to Pond 2 will have a water quality unit installed to provide pretreatment upstream of the pond. This will involve the relocation of one of the previously installed water quality units.

## CLOSURE

The following bullets recap the information contained within this Corrective Measures Completion Report:

- Following the investigation of the pond, the cause of the breach was determined to likely be the result of a number of factors including, but not limited to: rapid snow melt, rising water table, trapped water in fill during construction, a breach of a stormwater pipe collar, and the natural clay thinning out in the vicinity of Pond 1A.
- Pond 1A has been taken out of service and the breach in the site-wide cover system has been addressed in accordance with Langan's Pond 1A CMP, approved by NYSDEC on 20 June 2016.
- The remaining two ponds (Ponds 1B and 2) have not shown signs of failure from either uplift pressures or lateral pressure. Furthermore, water samples collected from Pond 1B and Pond 2 in June 2016 did not detect concentrations of hexavalent chromium above the laboratory reporting limit of 10 µg/L.

The Pond 1A corrective measures were conducted in accordance with the SMP and the NYSDEC-approved work plan, and all ECs are now operating per the design and are protective of human health and the environment. Based on the information provided in this letter, Langan requests NYSDEC update the corrective action status of the Site to "closed." Should you have any questions regarding the information contained in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

**Langan Engineering, Environmental, Surveying  
and Landscape Architecture, D.P.C.**



Jamie P. Barr  
Senior Associate/Vice President



Ryan J. Wohlstrom  
Project Engineer

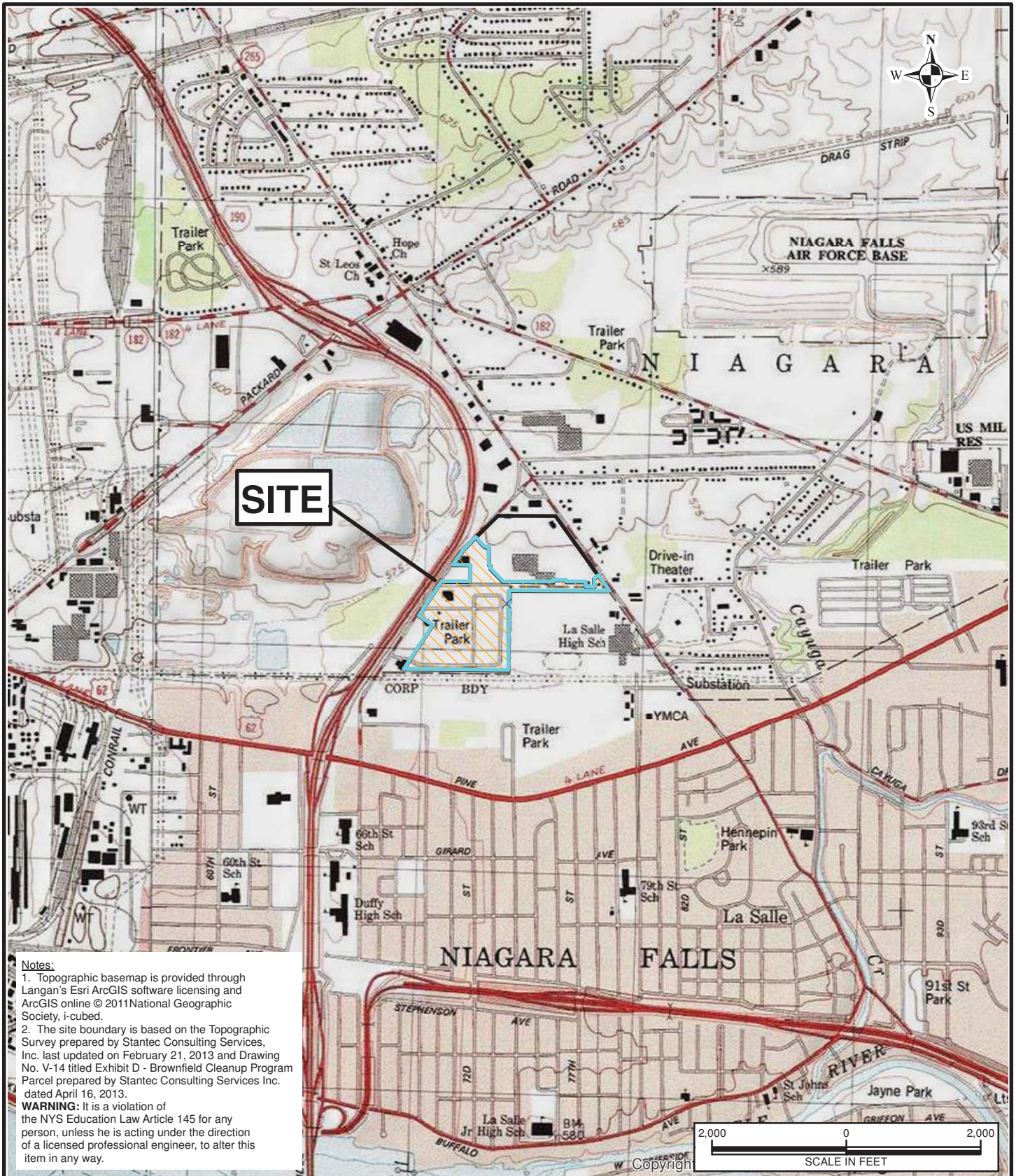
Attachment(s):      Figure 1 – Site Location Map  
                             Figure 2 – Remedial Cap/Cover Cross Sections  
                             Figure 3 – Corrective Measures Completion Plan  
                             Attachment A – Corrective Measures Plan

Attachment B – NYSDEC Corrective Measures Plan Approval Letter  
Attachment C – Revised Site Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan  
Attachment D – Pond Sampling Laboratory Analytical Data  
Attachment E – Excavation Work Plan  
Attachment F – NFWB Wastewater Discharge Permit  
Attachment G – NYSDEC Topsoil Import Approval

cc: Aladdin Ghafari / Macerich

## FIGURES





**LANGAN**

21 Penn Plaza, 360 West 31st Street, 8th Floor  
New York, NY 10001-2727  
T: 212.479.5400 F: 212.479.5444 www.langan.com

Langan Engineering & Environmental Services, Inc.  
Langan Engineering, Environmental, Surveying and  
Landscape Architecture, D.P.C.  
Langan International LLC

Collectively known as Langan

Project

**FONF Expansion/  
Sabre Park BCP**

TOWN OF NIAGARA

NIAGARA COUNTY

NEW YORK

Drawing Title

**SITE LOCATION  
MAP**

Project No.

140091414

Date

May 2017

Scale

1" = 2000'

Drawn By  
JPH

Last Revised

May 2017

Figure

1



